
Title: Tales of Virtue: Honor (Part 2)

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were well capable of
Victory, thanks to his
teachings.

On the day of the
battle, Dupre went up
to a hill overlooking
the doomed town, for
he would not turn
away from the evil
that his hand had
caused. But while he
waited there, he was
surprised when a
contingent of the
Gargoyle band
approached him, and
asked an unexpected
question.

"lieutenant," their
spokesman said, "we
know that you base all
your decisions on
Honor, which is a
strange concept to us,
but nonetheless we
wish to know if this
is an Honorable fight
today."

Now Dupre well knew
the cool power of the
Gargoyle intellect, and
that any attempt to
dissemble or dissuade
would be immediately
perceived, and would
discredit him forever
among the Gargoyles.
He was also minded of
his oath to
Gartagmalem to do
nothing to overtly
subvert his plans, so
he kept his answer as
straight and honest as
he could.

You have been told by
your Captain that Lord
British is a tyrant.
Well then, it is no
dishonor to take up
arms against tyranny,
if that is truly what
you believe. However,
your people do not
extract oaths of fealty
as mine do, and I have
often heard your
Captain say that you
follow him at the call
of your reason and
your own sense of
what is right, which
is the Gargoyle way.
Now your hearts and
minds have moved you
to ask whether the
fight today is
Honorable. Perhaps
the question itself is
it's own answer."

Then the Gargoyles
went apart again, to
dispute the question
among themselves,
and the end result was
that fully a third of
the band declined to
follow Gartagmalem
into combat against the
town. And one young
Gargoyle of impetuous
nature (the same
young champion whom
Dupre had cast down
at the inn) took it upon
himself to fly down
and warn the garrison
of the pending attack.

Nonetheless,
Gartagmalem, in cold
rage, refused to call
off the battle. But
against warned and
ready defenders the
diminished Gargoyle
force could not
prevail, and
Gartagmalem himself
was slain.
But the Gargoyles who
had refused to battle

(and aye, some of the survivors) returned to Dupre, and begged that he continue to lead them as he had in the past, against brigands and pirates and monsters, so that humans could see that Gargoyles were capable of service to all. And Dupre agreed, and he named the band the Locusts of Britannia, and they won great renown and did much good for many years.